



## Curators Biographies

### *At Freedom's Door: Challenging Slavery in Maryland*

**George Ciscle, Curator-in-Residence, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA)**, has mounted groundbreaking exhibitions, created community arts programs, and taught courses in the fine arts and humanities for more than 35 years. In 1985, he founded the George Ciscle Gallery in Baltimore, where he promoted the careers of young and up-and-coming artists. He then founded Baltimore's Contemporary Museum in 1989 and directed the museum until 1996. At the Contemporary Museum, Ciscle organized and curated numerous innovative exhibitions, including *Mining the Museum*, *Catfish Dreamin'*, *Going for Baroque*, and *Ignisfatuus*. He is currently Curator-in-Residence at MICA, where he consults on the development of community-based and public programming. He also leads the Exhibition Development Seminar, a course he created to provide artists with the opportunity to learn all aspects of the process of producing an exhibition. Ciscle received a bachelor's degree from Loyola College in Maryland and a master's degree in education from the University of North Carolina.

**Kym S. Rice, Co-Curator, *At Freedom's Door: Challenging Slavery in Maryland***, is the project's guest curator. For more than 15 years, Rice has organized history exhibitions for museums, historical societies, libraries, and cultural institutions. Her recent work includes the award-winning exhibition and publication, *Before Freedom Came: African American Life in the Antebellum South* and a *Women's War: Southern Women, Civil War, and the Confederate Legacy* for the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia; *Southern City, National Ambition: the Growth of Early Washington, D.C., 1800-1860*, jointly organized for the Anacostia Museum and the American Architectural Foundation; and the permanent exhibition related to African-American education in Colonial Williamsburg's Bruton Heights campus. Rice's consulting experiences involves work for the Smithsonian Institution (including the current traveling version of *Before Freedom Came*), the Field Museum in Chicago (the diaspora section of "Africa Hall"), the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (a multi-year evaluation of their African-American interpretation program), the National Park Service, the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, and many other museums and historical sites. She is an assistant professor and assistant director of the museum studies program at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

**David Taft Terry, Executive Director, Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture (RFLM)**, has researched Maryland history as it relates to the Underground Railroad, lynching, and racial desegregation in the mid-20th century. Prior to his appointment as executive director at RFLM, Dr. Terry served as director of the Collections and Exhibitions department at RFLM, where he guided the curatorial staff with regard to the galleries of the permanent exhibition and the special exhibitions gallery. Dr. Terry came to RFLM from the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis where he served as a Research Specialist. Additionally, Dr. Terry has taught U.S. History and African Diaspora courses at Morgan State University since 1995. He holds degrees from the University of Maryland, Morgan State University, and received his doctorate in history from Howard University. A life-long resident of Prince George's County, he resides in Bowie, Maryland, with his wife, Alisia, and their two children.